



12-2-05

Attorney's Docket No.: 14875-085001 / C2-101PCT-US

1642
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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Yoshihiro Sowa et al.

Art Unit : 1642

Serial No. : 09/937,162

Examiner : Laura B. Goddard, Ph.D.

Filed : March 7, 2002

Title : METHOD FOR SCREENING ANTICANCER AGENT

Mail Stop Amendment

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Responsive to the action mailed November 1, 2005, applicants elect the invention of Group 1 with traverse.

The Examiner has divided the claims into Groups 1-32, alleging that Sowa et al. (Cancer Research, 1999, 59:4266-70) is prior art that teaches the special technical feature of claim 6, i.e., identifying an agent having cellular anti-proliferation activity using a two-hybrid system using a fusion protein comprising Sp3 or a fragment thereof. However, Sowa et al. was published September 1, 1999, which is after the priority date, March 23, 1999, of the present application.

To perfect the priority claim, applicants submit herewith a certified translation of the priority document, JP 11-77350. Based on the priority date of March 23, 1999, Sowa et al. cannot be considered prior art against the present claims, and therefore all of the pending claims share the special technical feature of claim 6. Applicants respectfully request that the restriction requirement be withdrawn and that all of claims 6-24 be examined.

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No fee is believed to be necessary. Please apply any required charges or credits to
Deposit Account No. 06-1050, referencing Attorney Docket No. 14875-085001.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: 11-30-2005


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